

## SYSTEM FOR SECURELY DELIVERING PRE-ENCRYPTED CONTENT ON DEMAND WITH ACCESS CONTROL

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5           A method of delivering content from a head end to subscriber terminals within  
one or more cable systems. Such content may be video, audio or the like. The method  
includes the step of encrypting the content offline to form pre-encrypted content, generating  
an encryption record containing parameters employed for encrypting the content. Based on  
the encryption record, a control message for permitting access to the pre-encrypted content is  
10 generated using a periodical key provided by the first cable system. The pre-encrypted  
content and associated control message is thereafter forwarded to the first subscriber terminal  
for decryption of the content. For a second subscriber terminal within a second cable system,  
the pre-encrypted content is retrofitted with a second control message permitting the pre-  
encrypted content to be decrypted by the second subscriber terminal. Further, multiple  
versions of a control message for multiple service tiers within a cable system may be  
15 generated, each version for permitting access to a particular service tier within the system.

SF 1174810 v1